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REMARKS

Applicants have amended claims 1 and 8-10, and have cancelled claim 3. Claims 1, 2 and 4-14 are presently pending in the application.

The Office Action rejected claims 1-4, 6-11, 13 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Hush (U.S. Patent No. 6,873,538), and rejected claims 5 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Hush in view of Chen et al. (U.S. Publication No. US2004/0257854). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.


Regarding these rejections of the claims under 35 U.S.C. Sections 102 and 103 as being anticipated or obvious in view of various prior-art references, Applicants would like to thank Examiner Ngan Ngo for the oral correspondences extended to Applicants' representative, Kenton R. Mullins, on October 7, 2005, at which time it was indicated by Examiner Ngo that the pending independent claims as amended herein would appear to distinguish over the prior art of record. It was suggested that submission of the present Amendment by Applicants would be considered more carefully by the Examiner upon receipt thereof. In particular, Examiner Ngo reserved the right to review the application and prior art in detail to further familiarize himself with the issues, and to conduct an update search. Accordingly, Applicants request that the outstanding rejections be reconsidered and withdrawn.

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In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, allowance of all pending claims is respectfully requested. If a telephone conversation with Applicants' attorney would expedite the prosecution of the above-identified application, the Examiner is urged to call Applicants' attorney at the below number.

Respectfully submitted,



Kenton R. Mullins
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 36,331

STOUT, UXA, BUYAN & MULLINS, LLP
4 Venture, Suite 300
Irvine, CA 92618
Tel: 949-450-1750
Fax: 949-450-1764